

REMARKS

Claims 19-27 are pending in the present Application. Claims 26 and 27 have been amended, and Claims 28 and 29 have been canceled, leaving Claims 19-27 for further consideration by the Examiner.

Support for the amendment to Claims 26 and 27 can at least be found in Claims 21 and 22, as well as in Figure 6 and the corresponding description in the specification.

No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 26-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,410,168 to Tamura.

This rejection is moot in light of the clarifying amendments to Claims 26 and 27 and the cancellation of Claims 28-29. Nevertheless, Applicants submit the following arguments over Tamura.

Tamura merely discloses a structure of a passive type display element, and neither describes any of a first electrode formed independently in each pixel, a thin transistor, or a planarization insulating film covering the thin film transistor. As such, the basic structure of the display apparatus of Tamura completely differs from that of the presently claimed invention.

According to the presently claimed invention as recited in Claims 26 and 27, it is possible to reliably prevent disconnection of the first electrode caused by the effect of unevenness of the thin film transistor or the like existing below the first electrode, so that an accurate shape can be formed with high precision even when the first electrode has a small thickness which is less than 1/2 or 1/3 the thickness of the emissive layer. Further, by adopting a planarization insulating film, a change in display colors in the display apparatus can also be prevented. In addition, as the first electrode can be formed over a planar surface, unevenness of the emissive element layer covering the first electrode can be minimized. In particular, in the edge portion of the first electrode, the emissive element layer can cover a step having a thickness corresponding to the

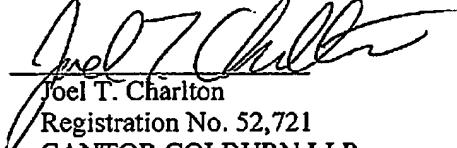
thickness of the first electrode, which is formed on the planar surface, without causing disconnection, thereby increasing the reliability of a display apparatus.

In a passive matrix type display apparatus as disclosed in Tamura, it is not necessary to form a transistor or the like under the lower electrode. Consequently, there is no technical necessity of forming a thin film transistor over a substrate, forming a planarization insulating film so as to cover the thin film transistor, or forming a first electrode having a thickness as claimed on the planarization insulating film. Accordingly, Claims 26 and 27 are not anticipated by Tamura and are therefore allowable.

It is believed that the foregoing remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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